

Catbird, 12.

Bluebird, 8.

Wood Thrush, 2.

This was the day on which sixty-nine species were recorded, the most of them without leaving the wagon.

Another all day trip, on July 10, under a threatening sky, a temperature ranging below 70, with a brisk north-west breeze blowing, resulted in the following record for twenty-one species :

Bartramian Sandpiper, 4.

Goldfinch, 35.

Red-shouldered Hawk, 1.

Vesper Sparrow, 79.

Downy Woodpecker, 1.

Grasshopper Sparrow, 1.

Belted Kingfisher, 2.

Cardinal, 2.

Kingbird, 77.

Towhee, 1.

Phœbe, 1.

Cedar Waxwing, 2.

Wood Pewee, 35.

Barn Swallow, 400.

Blue Jay, 16.

Louisiana Water Thrush, 1.

Bobolink, 78.

Redstart, 1.

Red-winged Blackbird, 66.

Robin, 68.

Bronzed Grackle, 37.

On this trip much more time was spent in the woods and near the swamps in search of birds.

The opening week of the summer term gave evidence of an unusually advanced season, with small promise of much from the birds. Few of them were singing, while the most of them seemed to be in perpetual hiding ; but as July grew old the songs began anew and the birds were far more willing to pose for the class. There was unmistakable evidence of change of plunage among nearly all species, often resulting in perplexing patterns ; but many of the birds were in full breeding plumage, while some were still nesting, even among the earlier breeders.

The summer's work clearly shows that the student of birds cannot leave the summer months out of his study if he expects to cultivate a broad acquaintance with the birds. On the contrary, sustained study during the months of July and August is greatly needed before many problems can hope to be solved. Let there be more summer study.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK.

Up to the time I was fifteen years old I considered this a rare bird, though since then I find it not uncommon. That spring I found my first

nest a few miles from here containing three eggs. The nest was placed on one of the lower limbs of a cottonwood tree just at the edge of the timber which bordered on a small swamp. The nest was composed of some small twigs and fine grass, and, being not over eight feet up, the eggs were easily seen from below.

I saw no more of these birds until the 9th of May, 1893, when I saw three males in one of the trees near the house. They soon flew away, but one returned in a few hours and stayed near all day, evidently waiting for his mate. The next morning I heard him singing sweetly, and, looking out I soon saw that his mate had arrived. After this I saw them almost every day until the 25th, when I found them starting a nest in a crab-apple tree which grew not more than twenty-five feet from the house. I suppose I watched them too closely for they did not continue this nest long, but on the 30th went to work in a box-elder tree which grew near, and removed what they had built and added a little more to it.

The female did almost all the building herself though the male usually staid near. On the 4th of June the female laid her first egg and continued one egg each day until the set of four was complete. The birds took turns sitting, though I think the male did rather more than his mate. About noon on the 18th I heard the male making a strange noise, and, looking up, I saw him standing on the edge of the nest. He would draw himself up to his full height, then flutter his wings, and make the queer squeaking noise again. He would then put his bill down into the nest and seem very excited. I then climbed up to see what was pleasing him so, and there in the nest I saw that one little bird was hatched and another was struggling to get himself out of his shell. No wonder the old bird was so delighted! The next morning all four were out. They grew quite fast and on the 28th left the nest, although they were not very strong. I do not blame them, for the nest was very thickly covered with insects which must have been very troublesome.

The summary would be as follows: From arrival till building began, sixteen days. From time second nest began till first egg laid, five days. Time of egg laying, four days. From laying last egg till hatching, eleven days. From hatching till birds left nest, ten days.

VIRGINIUS H. CHASE, *Wady Petra, Illinois.*

A BLOOD THIRSTY BLUE JAY.

One morning last week I heard some English Sparrows making a great